

## CURS CONNECTION

### Student Spotlight:

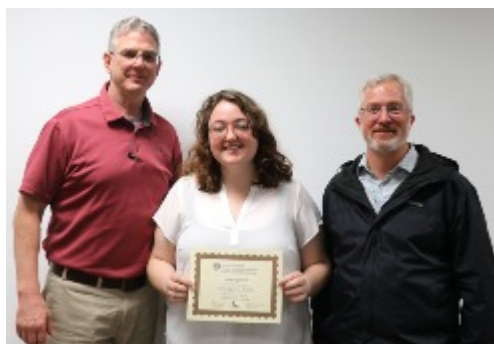
*Margaret Wade, Chemistry Major*



Margaret Wade is making it easier to sample water quality in our local creeks, ponds, and rivers. Through a collaboration with the City of Augusta's Utilities and Engineering Department and AU's Department of Chemistry and Physics, Margaret has been using her backgrounds in chemistry and physics to improve upon methods of testing water quality on site. Her mentors, Wes Byne, Engineer and Director of Augusta Utilities and Professor of Physics Dr. Andy Hauger have been supportive and guiding in her research to make an environmental and economic impact in the community. Margaret will be presenting this innovative research *Designing and Testing a Low-cost Arduino-based Turbidimeter* to our nation's congressmen and congresswomen at the prestigious [Posters on the Hill 2022](#) virtual event sponsored by the national Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR). Among hundreds of applicants, only 60 undergraduates

from across the nation were selected to present their work.

"This research has been a very fulfilling experience, not only from the academic perspective but also from seeing the ways in which this work will positively impact this community. I look forward to seeing the ways in which this project expands and improves the community in the future," said Margaret.



### Mentor of Excellence Award

*Students, Nominate your mentor!*

Who is doing an Excellent job of mentoring research?

The [CURS Mentor of Excellence Award](#) is seeking nominations for the 2022 award. This is a student nominated award to recognize and show appreciation to one faculty member annually who has shown excellence in mentoring one or more undergraduate students in research or scholarship. Nominations will be accepted starting March 15 through March 30th. This award, including funding for research and plaque, is presented during Undergraduate Research Week each spring. Self nominations are not accepted.

## Nominate My Mentor

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### Undergraduate Research and Fine Arts Conference

Join us for the Undergraduate Research and Fine Arts (URFA) Conference on Wednesday, March 30, 2022. The conference poster sessions open at 10:00 am with a formal Welcome at 12:00 noon. There will be posters, oral presentations, and performances. We are excited to announce our Keynote Speaker this year is Dr. Tiffany Townsend, Chief Diversity Officer of the University, and Associate Professor in the Department of Psychological Sciences. Faculty may use mini [assignments](#) to incorporate into classes and encourage students to notice the interdisciplinary nature of research happening at AU. Don't forget to attend the first 4x4 Showdown, a research pitch competition and the following awards ceremony. The conference is held IN PERSON this year during Augusta University's Undergraduate Research Week: March 28 - April 1. View the conference [schedule and more details on the CURS website](#).



For questions about the conference, please email [curs@augusta.edu](mailto:curs@augusta.edu).

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### Undergraduate Research Week Events

CURS invites you to join us in celebrating undergraduate researchers, scholars, and their mentors during the annual Undergraduate Research Week, March 28th - April 1st.

Monday, March 28th - Tuesday, March 29th

**Student Researcher & Mentor Appreciation Days.** Students scholars and researchers, stop by the CURS Suite (AH E330) between 9a.m.- 4p.m. for a goodie bag for you and a gift to deliver to your mentor.

Wednesday, March 30th

**Student Undergraduate Research & Fine Arts Conference** (10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.). View the conference schedule [here](#).

Student Undergraduate Research & Fine Arts Conference Presenters

If you have questions about presenting, or need assistance with slides, you may attend **CURS Drop-In Hours** from 1-4 p.m. in the Summerville Research Suite AH E325. MS Teams Virtual drop-in appointments are available as well with Dr. Davis (Teams message or call [juldavis@augusta.edu](mailto:juldavis@augusta.edu)).

- Wednesday, March 23rd 1-4 pm
- Thursday, March 24th 1-4 pm
- Friday, March 25th 1 - 4 pm

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### Distinctions in Research

Attention students interested in earning the **Distinction in Research** and the **Distinction of Excellence in Research!**

Distinctions are available to students who meet the criteria of research productivity and apply by the April 15 deadline.

Visit our [website](#) for more information.



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## Faculty, Do You Have an Opening for an Undergraduate?

Let us know for the our next newsletter if you have any available research positions. You can also [Register your project](#) so that students can find you 24/7/365.



CURS is still operating during normal business hours! You can reach us remotely or face to face.

Come by our office or make an appointment to discuss your research questions or brainstorm your options!

Allgood Hall Research Suite E330

Call: 706-729-2094

Email: [CURS@augusta.edu](mailto:CURS@augusta.edu)

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**Innovate. Investigate. Discover.**

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